

REMARKS

This Amendment, in connection with the following remarks, are submitted as fully responsive to the Office Action. No claims have been amended. Claims 1, 21, 22 and 25 are the independent claims. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,826,297 to Saito et al. ("Saito"). Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be removed because the filing date of Saito is May 18, 2001, and Applicant herewith submits a declaration of the inventor, Dr. Luis Serra, Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 establishing that the invention was completed in Singapore, at least as early as March 8, 2001, which is earlier than the filing date of Saito.

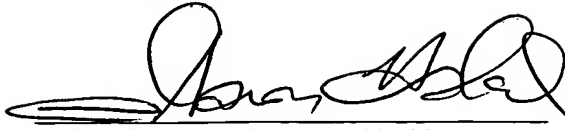
Thus, Saito is not a valid reference against the pending claims, and the rejection should be removed.

If any questions remain as to the proper establishment of the fact of the earlier date of invention, Applicant respectfully requests the opportunity to informally discuss same with the Examiner, and have the opportunity to submit any additional evidence as may be desired. The Examiner is thus respectfully requested to please notify Applicant's undersigned attorney if such questions remain so that this application can be timely moved forward.

No additional fees are believed due herewith. If any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deemed necessary for the entry of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 30, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron S. Haleva', written over a horizontal line.

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